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20 Background

U.S. policy is focused on helping Rwanda create conditions that will facilitate repatriation and reconciliation. The U.S. supports the UNHCR plan to use 1500 Zairian troops, monitored by 50-60 foreign security experts detailed to UNHCR, to provide security in the Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire. The mid-February regional refugee conference in Bujumbura produced a useful action plan to facilitate repatriation, although the Rwandans were reluctant to commit on sensitive issues like dialogue with refugee groups. Responding to GOR concerns, we are consulting in New York on modifying the UN arms embargo to allow supply of non-lethal equipment. We pledged \$60 million in assistance at the January UNDP roundtable, including funds to pay World Bank arrears, help restore basic services, strengthen the justice system, continue disaster relief and rehabilitation, and provide food.

Talking Points

- We will continue to work with you to help create conditions that will facilitate refugee return and reconciliation.
- As you know, we are providing assistance to help key ministries become fully operational and re-establish an effective administration of justice system.
- We believe that it is crucial to ensure accountability for the genocide. We plan to provide \$1.4 million for the International Tribunal, as well as detailing personnel.
- We support the UNHCR's plan to have Zaire deploy 1,500 additional forces to the camps under supervision of 50-60 military experts detailed to UNHCR.
- While we are cognizant of the problems associated with Zairian security forces, we believe that if properly paid, equipped and supervised, they could contribute to an improvement in the security situation.
- We were pleased with the work of the recent regional refugee conference and hope that the regional states and international community can move forward on the agreed plan of action for facilitating return of refugees and displaced.
- We urge you to continue to cooperate with your neighbors, UNAMIR, UNHCR and other key players to see that the action plan is fully and expeditiously implemented.
- We believe UNAMIR radio can be very helpful in countering propaganda in the camps. We are providing broadcasting equipment to UNAMIR and hope that the GOR and UN can work together to see that this radio is fully operational.

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SECC 5840 2/22/95 7-3138

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